

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, and that Senator CHAMBLISS be the first to be recognized.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, but I will not object, I ask to have printed in the RECORD a statement by Senator MCCAIN. If he were here, he would have voted for cloture.

• Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today, Senator JOHN MCCAIN released the following statement on S. 3036, the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008:

Global climate change is the most important environmental challenge facing not only our nation, but the entire world. I am confident that given the will, the federal government can be a lead advocate for ensuring that America is doing its part to reduce global warming, and join in the global effort that is needed to address this world-wide environmental issue.

Like many of my colleagues, I believe this legislation needs to be debated, amended, improved, and ultimately, enacted. While my schedule precludes me from being in Washington, DC, tomorrow to cast my vote, if I were able, I would vote to invoke cloture on the substitute amendment. That does not mean I believe the pending bill is perfect, and in fact, it is far from it. For example, the provisions to impose Davis Bacon mandates should be removed. Most importantly, it must include provisions championed by Senator Graham and myself that would ensure that nuclear power, a proven and clean energy source, is included among the technologies supported in our efforts to address global warming. Nuclear energy is an emission-free source of electricity for the nation, which is why it simply must be part of the comprehensive solution to addressing climate change, and if it is not, I could not support the legislation's final passage.

Unfortunately, despite the commitment and tireless efforts of the bill sponsors, Senators LIEBERMAN and WARNER, it appears that for now, the Senate, at the direction of the Majority Leader, will choose to put politics above policy, and Congress will fail to act yet again on this critical issue. But rest assured, we will not give up until we finally succeed in enacting needed, comprehensive cap and trade legislation to address this urgent problem. •

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I thank our colleagues. I wish to say, in addition to the names Senator WARNER put in yesterday, we had statements from Senators OBAMA, CLINTON, BIDEN, and KENNEDY, which means if all had been here, the vote would have been 54 votes. We are very pleased with this and we thank them very much.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Georgia.

64th ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise today, June 6, 2008, the 64th anniversary of D-day, to commend our

Armed Forces for their ongoing contributions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other countries where they are currently deployed, as well as their history of service and sacrifice for our country and for the causes of freedom and democracy worldwide.

Yesterday, I had the privilege of attending the Board of Visitors meeting for the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, which is located at Fort Benning, GA. WHINSEC, as it is called, provides security cooperation and strategic partnerships with countries in the Western Hemisphere in order to support democracy and human rights, and they have made a tremendous contribution since WHINSEC's inception in 2000.

The chairman of the Board of Visitors of WHINSEC, who is a Roman Catholic bishop, commented that members of the military are "agents of mercy." He is correct, and ultimately that is the role our military has played in the world in the 64 years since U.S. and Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy.

No one joins the military to get rich and famous, since the life of military personnel almost always takes place behind the scenes and out of the headlines. Many people join the military to achieve a better way of life and associate with a bigger cause than themselves. The military has provided a way for countless numbers of Americans to improve their own quality of life and learn the skills they need to succeed. We should be proud of the positive effect the military has on those who serve in its ranks.

But there is one thing everyone who serves in the military has in common, they join to serve. They join, realizing their service makes the lives of their fellow Americans better and more secure. But also, they know their service makes the lives in other countries safer and more prosperous.

Without question, that is the result of the service of our military personnel over the last 64 years in places such as Germany, France, Bosnia, Kosovo, Korea, Afghanistan, Iraq, Grenada, Panama, Haiti, Vietnam, and countless other locations where U.S. military personnel have served and sacrificed. These countries are more prosperous today because of the commitment of our Nation's military personnel.

No military, and no institution for that matter, is perfect. However, we should not be surprised that year after year the United States Military remains one of the most trusted professions. They deserve that position based on their commitment to a cause greater than themselves, their integrity, and their commitment to excellence. Today, there are 1.4 million personnel serving on Active Duty in our Nation's military, along with 1.2 million serving in the Reserve components. All of them deserve our appreciation and gratitude for their service, their sacrifice, and their contribution to our Nation's security and contributions to freedom and democracy around the world.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing thanks for them and for the key role they have played and continue to play in serving and sacrificing for our country and for those in other countries where they are serving.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Ohio.

CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise to address an environmental issue, an economic issue, and a moral issue. Future generations will look back on global warming as the defining issue of our time. Our children, their children, and their children will look back on this issue and judge us on how we confronted it.

If we treat global warming politically, as so many of the other side of the aisle did today, if we abdicate our responsibility, if we ignore reality, if we twiddle our thumbs as the destructive effects of global warming intensify, we will lose our chance to shape the future because, simply put, we will be squandering it.

I applaud Senator BOXER, the chairwoman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, a tireless advocate for clean air, safe drinking water, and healthy families.

This was not an easy vote. This entire week I have listened to the speeches on the Senate floor, and I have listened to my colleagues speak eloquently on the need for global climate change legislation. I fully agree with the environmental goals of this bill—mandatory caps, the science-based timeline. This, as I said, is the moral question of our generation. I have the utmost respect for my colleagues who have worked so long and so hard to craft this historic legislation and for environmental advocates in Ohio and across the country. I am 100 percent committed to passing a robust, mandatory cap-and-trade policy. However, while we have been debating climate policy, Ohioans have been getting bad news.

This has been a particularly tough week for my State. In the last 7 days, Ohioans learned that our State may soon lose another 10,000 jobs. Those are not just jobs. They are the building blocks, the foundation for individual achievement, family security, and community survivability. They are about health care, they are about opportunity, they are about sending kids to college, they are about admission to the middle class.

Now that foundation is crumbling—10,000 good-paying jobs in 1 week. Since 2001, Ohio has lost more than 200,000 manufacturing jobs.

We have, to be sure, a moral obligation to our planet. For me, that obligation stems from Scripture which makes each of us a steward of our planet, of this Earth. We also have an opportunity and obligation to Ohioans and